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Title : Need to review the proposed privatisation of International Airports at Mumbai and New Delhi.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I beg to submit that the reported decision of the Central Government in regard to privatising of international airports in Delhi and Mumbai is highly dangerous. I do admit that they should be modernised and sufficient equipment should also be provided to them. That could be done in the public sector itself and not in the private sector. However, the Government is making a shortcut by inviting private capital for modernising these international airports. Now, it involves a dangerous situation because it involves the question of national security. Therefore, national security cannot be given to persons with private interest.

I will request the Central Government not to proceed further with the privatisation of airports in Delhi and Mumbai.

In the meanwhile, I may be permitted to submit that unfortunately no development has taken place in the Trivandrum International Airport, which was sanctioned by our former Prime Minister. The condition of the Trivandrum International Airport is deplorable.

MR. SPEAKER: Get some Indian investors.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It has to be modernised with sufficient equipment, but nothing has been done by the Ministry of Civil Aviation[R26].

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13.00 hrs.

People who are coming to Kerala, especially the international tourists coming to Kovalam find it very difficult to come to Kovalam because of lack of facilities in the international airport at Trivandrum. So, I again earnestly urge the Government to take immediate steps. There is budget provision and there has been a declaration by the Central Government to open an international terminal. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have gone beyond your notice.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I again request the Government to take immediate steps to implement the decision of the Central Government in operating an additional international terminal at Trivandrum.

MR. SPEAKER: You have not suggested how to do it.